H. R. 5084

AN ACT

To amend title 13, United States Code, to improve the accuracy of census address lists, and for other purposes.

1   *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4   This Act may be cited as the ''Census Address List

5 Improvement Act of 1994''.

6 **SEC. 2. ADDRESS INFORMATION REVIEWED BY LOCAL GOV-**

7   **ERNMENTS.**

8   (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 13, United

9 States Code, is amended by adding after section 15 the

10 following new section:

"§16. Address information reviewed by States and local governments

"(a) The Secretary, to assist efforts to ensure the accuracy of censuses and surveys under this title, shall—

"(1) publish standards defining the content and structure of address information which States and local units of general purpose government may submit to the Secretary to be used in developing a national address list;

"(2)(A) develop and publish a timetable for the Bureau to receive, review, and respond to submissions of information under paragraph (1) before the decennial census date; and

"(B) provide for a response by the Bureau with respect to such submissions in which the Bureau specifies its determinations regarding such information and the reasons for such determinations; and

"(3) be subject to the review process developed under section 3 of the Census Address List Improvement Act of 1994 relating to responses pursuant to paragraph (2).

"(b)(1) The Secretary—

"(A) shall provide officials who are designated as census liaisons by a local unit of general purpose government with access to census address information for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the

1   address information of the Bureau for census and

2   survey purposes; and

3   ''(B) together with such access, should provide

4   an explanation of duties and obligations under this

5   title.

6   ''(2) Access under paragraph (1) shall be limited to

7 address information concerning addresses within the local

8 unit of general purpose government represented by the

9 census liaison or an adjacent local unit of general purpose

10 government.

11   ''(3) The Bureau should respond to each rec-

12 ommendation made by a census liaison concerning the ac-

13 curacy of address information, including the determination

14 (and reasons therefor) of the Bureau regarding each such

15 recommendation.

16   ''(4) For the purposes of paragraph (1), in a case

17 in which a local unit of general purpose government is

18 within another local unit of general purpose government

19 and is not independent of the enclosing unit, the census

20 liaison shall be designated by the local unit of general pur-

21 pose government which is within the enclosing local unit

22 of general purpose government.

23   ''(5) A census liaison may not use information made

24 available under paragraph (1) for any purpose other than

25 the purpose specified in paragraph (1).

1 ''(c) For the purposes of this section—

2 ''(1) the term 'local unit of general purpose

3 government' has the meaning given such term by

4 section 184(1) of this title; and

5 ''(2) the term 'State' includes the District of

6 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the

7 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,

8 American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and

9 any other territory or possession of the United

10 States.''.

11 (b) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Section 9(a) of such title is

12 amended—

13 (1) by inserting ''or local government census li-

14 aison,'' after ''thereof,''; and

15 (2) by inserting ''or 16'' after ''section 8''.

16 (c) PENALTY.—Section 214 of such title is amended

17 by inserting ''or whoever, being or having been a census

18 liaison within the meaning of section 16 of this title,'' after

19 ''title,'' the second place it appears.

20 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections

21 at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title is amended by

22 inserting after the item relating to section 15 the

23 following:

''16. Address information reviewed by local governments.''.

SEC. 3. DEVELOPMENT OF APPEALS PROCESS BY ADMINIS-TRATOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS.

The Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, acting through the Chief Statistician and in consultation with the Bureau of the Census, shall develop an appeals process for those States and local units of general purpose government which desire to appeal determinations of the Bureau of the Census pursuant to section 16(a)(2) or (b)(3) of title 13, United States Code. Appeals under such process shall be resolved before the decennial census date. The Chief Statistician shall publish the proposed appeals process for a period of public comment before finalizing such process.

SEC. 4. AUTHORITY OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO SHARE ADDRESS LISTS.

Section 412 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking out ''Except'' and all that follows through ''law,'' and inserting in lieu thereof ''(a) Except as specifically provided by subsection (b) or other law,''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) The Postal Service shall provide to the Secretary of Commerce for use by the Bureau of the Census such address information, address-related information, and

1 point of postal delivery information, including postal deliv-

2 ery codes, as may be determined by the Secretary to be

3 appropriate for any census or survey being conducted by

4 the Bureau of the Census. The provision of such informa-

5 tion under this subsection shall be in accordance with such

6 mutually agreeable terms and conditions, including

7 reimbursability, as the Postal Service and the Secretary

8 of Commerce shall deem appropriate.''.

Passed the House of Representatives October 3, 1994.

Attest:

Clerk.

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